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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7947  
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RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 1022

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NSC FOR ABRAMS/DORAN/MARCHESE/HARDING  
STATE FOR NEA/ELA, NEA/FO:ATACHCO

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [KDEM](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [EAID](#) [EFIN](#) [UN](#) [GCC](#) [IZ](#) [LE](#)  
SUBJECT: LEBANON: MINISTERIAL DELEGATION TO ICI MEETING  
UNLIKELY

REF: STATE 46243

Polchief discussed the May 3 International Compact with Iraq meeting with Oussama Khacchab, Americas and Multilateral Affairs officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After consulting with his colleagues, Khacchab reported that the prevailing view at the MFA is that Lebanon, as a small country going through its own political and economic crisis, has little to offer Iraq and would likely not send a delegation from Beirut to either the May 3 or May 4 meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh. Polchief told Khacchab that while material support may not be possible, Lebanon can still make a gesture demonstrating political support for Iraq by sending as high-level a representative as feasible to the May 3 meeting. Khacchab noted that since the MFA is without its minister, who resigned in November along with the other Shia ministers in Lebanon's cabinet, ministerial-level representation at the meeting is extremely unlikely. He promised, however, to take up the matter with the MFA's Director-General Ambassador Dimachkie, who is in Cairo now and will return at the end of the week. We will see Khacchab again April 24 and may have an update to report.  
FELTMAN